

Wood (Cornelius)

26

16

LETTER

From

Major Wood,

Giving An

ACCOUNT

Of the

ACTION

Near

Castle-Cuffe;

The fourth of M A Y. 1 6 9 1.

ON Monday about nine at night I marched out from my Quarters at Mountmelick, having under me 300 Foot Detacht from the Regiments of Lord George Hamilton and Collonel Lloyd, and 50 from Collonel Byerly's Horse: As I moved forward through those Quarters most Infested by the Rapparees I laid small Parties upon the Passes to cut off those should endeavour to escape us, after beating through the Bogs, by which means about seventy were cut off: I advanced with 30 Foot and 34 Horse upon Castle-Cuffe side, three miles beyond the Toghrogh Mill-hone, and from thence under the Guard of 30 Foot sent homewards such Cattle as had fallen into our hands, and was my self returning slowly after with my Horse and Foot, when about ten in the morning appeared between the Wood and the Mountain two Bodies of the Enemies Army, consisting in every bodys judgment of 400 each: As soon as they perceived we had discovered them, they beat their Drums, and I drew up my Horse and Foot in a Plough'd Field and faced them; They put their Granadiers immediately over the Hedge towards us, with Orders, as I suppose, to Charge us; but seeing us stand firm, they did not advance, the foremost of their bodies all the while marching through the wood: I was fearful the 30 men that had the care of the Prey of Cattle were not got through the Passes, so I wheel'd-off to the Right by the Skirt of it, to succour the Foot, if they should be pressed by the Enemies Body, that so considerably out-numbred them: After I had got the Horse and Foot through the Bog, I heard 'em begin a very smart Fire upon our Men, which was as briskly returned by Lieutenant Ellis that Commanded the Guard of 30. When I had got to the top of the Hill, the Detachment of eighty Foot under Captain Dixey and Ensign Russel, which I had laid near that place to intercept Rapparees in their Escape, hearing the Shot made up to the place; I ordered 'em to march on one side the River, and another party under Major Rider and Lieutenant Barton to move on the other, taking my self with the Horse a middle way betwixt both, up a small Rivulet; when I had marcht so far up as to be in sight of the Enemy, I perceiv'd my Horse might be of more use by fetching a Compass and falling in their Rear, and accordingly took my way, which the Enemy perceiving (and our Foot pressing them at the same time very eagerly) thought it the best of their play to make an orderly Retreat, which as soon as I saw I fell into their Flank, and

into Confusion, and immediately after into a downright Flight; whereupon I gallopp'd with some Horse as forward as I could to head them, that those that follow'd might have better opportunity loing Execution, other part of my Horse made through the Wood on the Right, whilst I kept the ft, until we both came to the edge of the Bog, having had the cutting them off all the way, whilst the ot destroyed all they found in the under-wood. There fell of the Enemy above a hundred and fifty, th one Captain *Chales* and two Lieutenants, and into our hands the List of Prisoners following.

Major John Fitz-Patrick who Commanded the Enemy.

Of Coll. <i>Edward Butler</i> of <i>Balliraggats Regiment</i> .	{ Captain <i>Michael Forester</i> .
	{ Captain <i>Edmund Butler</i> .
	{ Lieutenant <i>Daniel Magrah</i> .
	{ Lieutenant <i>William Dormer</i> .
	{ Lieutenant <i>Oliver Purcell</i> .
	{ Lieutenant <i>Michael Blanchfield</i> .
	{ Ensign <i>John Magrah</i> .

Of Collonel <i>Robert Graces</i> Regiment of Foot.	{ Captain <i>Michael Chevers</i> .
	{ Lieutenant <i>James Caddell</i> .
	{ Lieutenant <i>Michael Daly</i> .
	{ Adjutant <i>Farrell</i> .

Of coll. <i>Charles Moores</i> Regiment of Foot.	{ Lieutenants. { <i>William Dun</i> .
	{ <i>Alexander Roch</i> .
	{ Ensign <i>Lochlin Moore</i> .

Of Collonel <i>Symon Lut-</i> <i>trels Dragons</i> .	{ Captain <i>John Coughlan</i> .
	{ Captain <i>Patrick Warren</i> .

Sir <i>Morice Eustace</i> of <i>Castle-</i> <i>martin</i> , his Regiment of Foot.	{ Lieutenant <i>Morris Fitz-Gerald</i> .

Besides the Officers abovesaid, we took their Adjutant, Chyrurgion, two Drums, six serjeants, seventeen Corporals, and a hundred and five Private Men.

In this Action was only a hundred and ten of our Foot, under Major *Rider*, Captain *Nenny*, and Captain *Dixey*, with the Lieutenants, *Ellis*, *Dallison*, *Barton*, and *Giles*; Ensigns, *Russel*, *Ellis*, and *Gallaway*; with the thirty four Horse was only my Self and the two Cornets *Joslin* and *Haslington*; and the two Quarter-Masters, *Davis* and *Ladford*; who all both Horse and Foot did heir Duty with the utmost Bravery.

Collonel *Byerly*'s Adjutant was dangerously Wounded, by Captain *Chales* to whom he had before given Quarter; which our Soldiers seeing, in a great rage Slew him. One Trooper and two of our Foot were Wounded and only one Corporal of the Foot Slain.

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